

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

August 10, 2015 -- 7 P.M.
Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall
www.olmd.org

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

C. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

2. Meeting Notice Announcement

The meeting notice announcement was distributed to local newspapers, posted at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall, two boards, and on the OLMD website.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Carol Wilson
Tom Godar
Dennis Johnson
Bruce Mueller

Absent

Dee Schriver

Also Present

Pat Furno, Accountant for the District
Kathy Aron, Consultant - Aron & Associates

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Comments from the Floor

There was no one present wishing to comment at this time.

7. Comments from Committee Members

None.

8. Discuss & Act on Report of the Treasurer

P. Furno reported the following:

Total Revenues:	\$316,826.93
Total Expenditures:	<u>\$199,008.90</u>
Total:	\$117,818.03

D. Johnson moved to accept the Report of the Treasurer as presented. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Approve Checks & Vouchers

Clarification was provided regarding the detailed costs of the annual Goose Round-Up.

T. Godar moved to approve the August 10, 2015 list of bills as presented. D. Johnson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. Approve Minutes (July 13 & July 27, 2015)

T. Godar moved to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2015 meeting as presented. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Johnson moved to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2015 meeting as presented. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

11. Update, Discuss & Possible Action – Starry Stonewort (Kathy Aron)

Kathy Aron, of Aron & Associates, explained the DNR held a series of informational meetings regarding a new invasive species called Starry Stonewort found in four lakes in southeastern Wisconsin. These public meetings were designed to inform residents about Starry Stonewort and how it spreads. The meetings were well attended with representatives from lake management districts, interested riparian owners and other DNR staff. DNR Staff fielded some difficult questions regarding a lack of aggressive treatment in Little Muskego and Big Muskego Lakes. People in attendance anticipated prompt chemical treatment to the areas and this was not the case. Prevention through clean watercraft, trailers and launch areas was considered key to prohibit its spread to other lakes.

A sample of Starry Stonewort was shared with Commissioners. The Starry Stonewort plant resembled Cara with uneven branching and could be found in similar lake habitats.

It could spread through joints, stars and fragmentation of parts and was considered quite fragile. Prop movement could break off a fragment and it would sink to the floor of the lake bed and begin to grow again. It was not known to float on top on the water and travel downstream through lake or river flowage unless under heavy flow. It spread primarily through props going through the Starry Stonewort area, gathering it on the boat motor and then transporting it to other lakes or areas through insufficiently cleaned boats, watercraft and trailers. Starry Stonewort could currently be found in Little Muskego and Big Muskego Lakes, Long Lake (near Norway, WI) and Silver Lake (Washington County). There was no record of Starry Stonewort ever being eliminated from a lake once infested with it; however, the states of New York, Indiana and Michigan had programs in place that prevented the spread of Starry Stonewort into all systems within each state. Research was available online that indicated success in these areas due to aggressive treatment. Typically an aggressive herbicide treatment was used and boat launches were well maintained and free of any Starry Stonewort. Starry Stonewort would also die back under ice cover and would re-emerge in the spring. Some areas were treated approximately three times during the growing season with the first spraying immediately after ice out, again in mid-June to July and possibly again later in the season. If the plants were less than six feet when sprayed, spraying could be effective. Once they reached their full height of six feet, applying chemical herbicide would only remove growth in the upper levels of the plant, similar to “giving it a haircut.” Starry Stonewort could not be harvested due to its fragility and ability to swiftly fragment with slight movement near it.

Discussion ensued regarding a multifaceted approach to preventing Starry Stonewort from entering area waterways. It would be important to work toward creating a coalition of interested groups, including fishing groups, recreational activity supporters and other lake management associations and districts to draw attention, resources and support from political entities. In addition, it was important to provide education and information to people so that they were aware of what Starry Stonewort was and how to prevent it from spreading. Signage was considered helpful in prevention. Clean boat launches and boat trailers were also imperative in reducing the spread of Starry Stonewort.

Signage would be posted in various locations around Okauchee Lake to assist in providing public education and prevention. More information would be provided on Starry Stonewort at the Annual Meeting.

12. Aquatic Plant Management Report

D. Johnson reported most of the weed harvesting crew would be leaving at the end of the month. Interviews were being conducted for a fall crew.

13. Discuss & Act on Annual Meeting Agenda & Preliminary 2016 Budget

Commissioners discussed the Annual Meeting Notice Agenda and Preliminary 2016 Budget. Recommendations discussed at the July 27, 2016 Budget Workshop meeting had been incorporated into the Preliminary 2016 Budget.

T. Godar moved to present the Preliminary 2016 Budget as presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding various wording of items on the draft 2015 Annual Meeting Notice Agenda. A recommendation was made to include an update on Starry Stonewort at the Annual Meeting.

D. Johnson moved to approve the draft 2015 Annual Meeting Notice Agenda as revised. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

14. Update on Road T Boat Launch

No update had been provided by the DNR.

15. Discuss Website Items

Updated lake levels, Starry Stonewort identification information and an employment advertisement for the fall crew had been added to the OLMD website since the last meeting.

16. Future Agenda Items

The following items were suggested for inclusion on the next regular meeting agenda.

- Update on Starry Stonewort
- Update on Road T Boat Launch
- Update on the 2015 Annual Meeting

17. Set Future Meetings

The Annual Meeting was scheduled for August 31, 2015 at 7 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall. The next regular meeting of the OLMD was scheduled for September 14, 2015.

18. Adjournment

D. Johnson moved to adjourn the August 10, 2015 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. B. Mueller seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.